

ESTABLISHED AUGUST 24, 1852.

The Intelligencer.

Office: Nos. 25 and 27 Fourteenth Street.

The Senatorial vote market is booming. If the bottom drops out there will be a panic.

Is the lobby going to run to-night's caucus what is the use of hauling the caucus together? The lobby has already been polled.

The State Senate is wasting a great deal of valuable time in its frantic efforts to dispatch business. This is a tedious way to make haste slowly.

SPEAKER WOODS kicks out of the party traces when the labor question troubles him. The speaker is an Ohio county man, and is dealing in "futures."

SENATOR LODMAN'S bill for a lunatic asylum in the Third District is timely. They will need something of the kind down here after this cruel war is over.

DR. NORVIS GREEN'S exhibit of the great compass of the Western Union is sufficient reason why that powerful company should be met by a rival of equal reach and power.

Is Washington, Colonel Ben seems to be hailed for a great John Alden act in Wheeling. The difference between John Alden and Colonel Ben is that Colonel Ben isn't a Puritan and John Alden wasn't a sly.

FROM Indiana comes the startling intelligence that Will English, the son of his father, will not carry the farce of his threatened contest to Congress. The English boom languishes for lack of appreciation.

WE can understand why our Democratic friends desire to "ignore all resolutions in regard to legislation by Congress." Such resolutions bring on the record, and the record is considered a good thing for dodgers to dodge.

Is we correctly catch the sense of the majority in the Legislature the idea is to dodge as many live issues as possible, and go home with a gilt-edged record bearing on its face nothing but the appropriations. This isn't a bad programme for an ostrich party.

Is the previous session the Democratic Senators—never at loss for words, idle words—managed to talk the tax reduction bill to death with distinguished ability. It is to be hoped that they are not reserving a late fate for the tariff bill. There being no previous question in the Senate, words go a long way.

AND still the interesting question remains, Is the West Virginia Senate in favor of abolishing or reducing the tobacco tax, or letting it alone? Whoever can discover from yesterday's proceedings takes the prize. The general belief seems to be that it is, though nobody is quite sure about it, or, if so, why.

Is view of a possible diversion in the Senatorial hubbub the Wetzel Democrat makes bold to say: "As one of the people we do not desire to see Mr. Davis re-elected to the United States Senate, and we are not ashamed to say so. This talk of his developing West Virginia is bosh and gammon. All his interests are in old Virginia." A great many members are expressing themselves to the same effect, but if that lasso goes out there will have to be a considerable bobbing of heads or somebody will be roped in.

The Democratic House of Delegates refuses to instruct our Senators and request our Representatives in Congress to oppose a reduction of the wool tariff. Therefore Mr. Harmon's resolution goes to a committee which will take the hint and smother it, unless the majority shall take fright. What is Congress to think? Either that the West Virginia Legislature cares nothing for West Virginians who make their living by wool growing, or that the Legislature desires a reduction of the tariff on wool. In either case the sentiment of the House does not represent the will of the people of West Virginia.

DR. CAMDEN requests the INTELLIGENCER to say that his report of the Hospital for the Insane, for the seven and a half months spoken of in the INTELLIGENCER of Saturday last, was made out, embracing in it the financial statements, cost of keeping, &c., for that period, was examined and approved by the Directors, and was placed upon the books of the Hospital, when it became the property of the Hospital, and it could have been used. Dr. Camden also gave to the Governor a copy of the same for publication in November last. Why it was not published he does not know; no more do the people. The INTELLIGENCER is open to further information on the subject.

The great number of failures in 1882—nearly seven thousand—and the marked increase over the number in 1881, a bad crop year, is giving rise to much speculative inference and discussion. General and almost reckless expansion of the credit system, and the venture of tradesmen on insufficient capital, are obvious causes which must be granted in any discussion. The Financial Chronicle prints an interesting and well digested comparative table showing the number engaged in business, the failures, percentage of failures and the average liabilities for 1881 and 1882. The aggregate was greater in 1882 and the average liabilities a little more, as \$15,070 to \$14,300. There was one failure in 122 traders in 1882 and one in 140 in 1881. The comparison shows that the bulk of the disasters fell on Southern and Western States, 3,508 failures out of a total of 6,738. These sections suffered most from the harvests of 1881, and the results are apparent in the following year's business. The outlook for 1883 is conceded, by all but the stock market bears, to be encouraging. Prices are thought to have touched bottom; except in a very few lines there are no great stocks on hand, raw materials are for the most part cheap, and there is promise of good harvests.

Representative Shackelford of the Third North Carolina district, is dangerously ill.

AFFAIRS IN CONGRESS.

PROGRESS OF TARIFF LEGISLATION.

The Reason for the Delay of the Ways and Means Committee—The Senate Bill—The Question of Tobacco Tax Reduction—Col. Ben's Room From a Washington Standpoint.

From Our Special Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 15.—Those prophets who have lately insisted that there would be no tariff bill passed this session find confirmation of their prediction in the fact that the Ways and Means Committee have not yet reported their bill to the House. The committee, however, have substantially completed the bill. Before reporting to the House they want to be able to show how the changes they have made will affect the customs revenue and to this end have called on the Treasury Department for tables showing the revenue collected last year on each article of the new schedules, and the amount that will be yielded by the bill they propose. This Treasury report may not be ready before the last of the week, and a member of the committee to-day expressed the opinion that the committee would not make their report the last of the week or the first part of the next.

THE SENATE TARIFF BILL.

The Senate to-day made some progress in the list of chemicals in the tariff bill, and would have done more but for the general desire to go into executive session and conclude the matter of the Briel and La Abra claims which have been rejected by the Government to the prejudice of matters affecting the whole country. The extract of hemlock and other barks used for tanning was assessed at 2 per cent. ad valorem, and the cotton bolls at 10 per cent. ad valorem. The committee, by having cotton seed "oil classed with linseed oil and subjected to a duty of 25 cents per gallon. There was a lighter bichromate of potash, Mr. Gorman demanding a duty of 31 cents per pound, and other Senators insisting on a reduction. At this point the Senate adjourned. The progress made to-day is not inconsiderable. Mr. Morrill complained of the waste of time and many Republicans charge death. The members for an executive session was carried to-day by Republican votes. The Democrats are somewhat embarrassed by the absence of Mr. Bayard, who is specially informed in respect to the duties on chemicals.

TABACCO TAX REDUCTION.

The House Committee have made no change in the tax on tobacco in their tariff bill, and it is said by a member who is strongly in favor of a reduction to eight cents per pound, that the Committee will not attempt in this bill to modify the internal revenue duties. It is not probable that there will be any provision included for free ships. The tobacco men generally hope that they will carry their point of an eight cents tax and a rebate, if there is to be any legislation this winter.

THE WESTERN UNION.

Dr. Norvis Green gives an Account of his Company's Operations.

WASHINGTON, January 15.—Dr. Norvis Green of the Western Union Telegraph Company, appeared before the subcommittee of the House Judiciary committee by invitation, and discussed the provisions of the bill recently introduced Mr. Joyce, of Vermont, for the regulation of telegraph and cable companies. He said the Western Union had nearly 400,000 miles of wire—enough to girdle the earth fifteen times—and 12,500 offices scattered in every State and Territory of the Union, and in the provinces of Canada, from the borders of New Foundland at the Gulf of St. Lawrence to Pigeon Sound in British America. It had also cables to London, so that it now required more than nine hours for the sun to rise over the lines, and the feat had been performed of publishing in the San Francisco morning papers the quotations and transactions of the closing of the London Exchange at 3 o'clock of the same day. Dr. Green further said that in the hands of the governments of the continent there was a large area of the twenty-five cent rate, but the Western Union had a considerable area of the 15 and 10-cent rate, which those countries had not; and the 50-cent rate of the compound rates of England and the continent. Dr. Green argued that there was no necessity for the passage of the Joyce bill to regulate the transmission of telegraph messages, because the object contemplated by the bill was already accomplished by the Western Union Company, and that the safeguards proposed by the bill have already been provided by State legislation.

A Fatal Death.

WASHINGTON, January 15.—Details of the terrible suffering and death of three men from exposure and cold on Curruck Sound, N. C., reached here to-day. The men were in a large oil-rigged canoe, and, being overtaken by the severe storm which passed over that section last Friday night, the boat was overturned while the occupants were endeavoring to tack about. One of the men, named James, was killed by the force of the water. Another clung to the vessel's keel until forced to let go by the intense cold and the jostling of the boat. The third man, whose name is reported as Waterfield, held on to the keel, and was washed ashore after having been in the penetrating water for over three hours. When found on the beach Waterfield was frothing at the mouth, his limbs were terribly swollen and blue, and his tongue, which was also very much swollen, protruded from his mouth. It is expected that he will die from the effects of his terrible experience.

Washington Savings Bank Case.

WASHINGTON, PENNA., January 15.—The case of the Savings bank of this place against Samuel Roth and R. J. S. Thompson for conspiracy and embezzlement has been compromised. Thompson pays the bank \$10,000, and attorneys fees of \$2,000. Roth has been re-arrested on a charge of perjury, embezzlement and false pretenses on the oath of W. A. Mackey, a stockholder.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

The Court of Claims rendered a decision in favor of the Pacific Mail Steamship company for \$83,333.33 in the suit against the United States under its contract for carrying mail on the China line a number of years ago. The Jeanette board met yesterday. Chief Engineer Melville was recalled to identify documents to be introduced as evidence. These included the journal and a letter of the late Jerome Collins, and two letters relating to the DeLong expedition. Melville testified in addition that he was ignorant of the fact that the bodies which were buried near Melville were disinterred by Jackson and Larson until he read of it in the published investigation up to the present time, but the work will not be completed until the Jeanette men in Siberia have been examined. They are expected to return some time in March.

WEST VIRGINIA NOTES.

The Senatorial Question—Fountain Smith's Position—Personals.

From an Occasional Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 15.—The force of clerks at the Census office has been very greatly reduced within fifteen days past, no less than 170 of the employees having been dismissed since January 1st. Lack of funds has compelled the Commissioner to this step, and the business in his charge is thereby greatly retarded.

BILLS PASSED.

Saturday was the last day for filing claims before the re-established Board of Commissioners for the adjudication of Alabama claims. The number of cases submitted to that date was nearly six thousand. The Pension bill, under which a sum aggregating \$81,575,000 is to be disbursed, has passed the House. Of the amount appropriated, \$80,000,000 will be devoted to army pensions; \$1,000,000 to navy pensions, and the remainder goes to meet the expenses of the department.

WHY DON'T YOU ASK FOR YOURSELF, COLONEL?

The rumors afloat here respecting the position of Col. Ben. Wilson upon the Senatorial question are distressingly conflicting. The latest, to the effect that the Colonel will appear in the role of John Alden to a well known Miles Standish, is not generally credited; though should the Colonel attempt to do so, the Legislature would be obliged to him. It is expected that the fair Priscilla will respond strictly according to the text.

This reference to the all-absorbing topic, reminds me that Mr. J. W. Standish, of Mr. Kennan's constituency, who is prevalent nothing to your representative here to warrant the statement in Saturday's INTELLIGENCER that he believed hereof supporters would now prefer Mr. Davis, Mr. Hereford being out of the race.

WHAT SAYS THE SENATOR?

It is the opinion of many of his friends that Senator Smith, of Fairmont, would serve his State much more acceptably by enlarging his sphere of independence. The Senator possesses the ability requisite to constitute him a leader of power and influence in a field less contracted than "pent-up Utica" affords; and while it is conceded that his record as a legislator has been somewhat liberal, it is believed that the spirit of independence which is prevalent in his district and State will justify him in making a broader declaration of his true sentiments. I aim to do the Senator justice, believing I do not misrepresent him. If I err, he will please pardon me; his declared position on the Senatorial question excites comment, even in Washington.

PERSONAL.

That excellent fellow-citizen, Charles F. W. Kunst, has been re-appointed postmaster at Grafton. He will of course be promptly confirmed.

The Misses Loring, accompanied by Mrs. Patterson, all of Wheeling, are visiting Washington, and will remain for a few days longer, when they will leave for Richmond. Mrs. Patterson is a sister of Mr. John Harvey, a clerk in the State Department, and the young ladies named are the daughters of Maj. Loring.

Col. Edward Moore left for Fairmont last evening. He may possibly visit Wheeling before he returns to Washington.

On Thursday, the 14th inst., a brother of the Senator, and a resident of Keyser, was in the city on Saturday.

Mr. George A. Dunnington, of Fairmont, employed in the Government Printing Office, has become the duly accredited representative of this city in the City of the Daily Derrick. Mr. Dunnington is a ready writer, and dishes up the news intelligently and gracefully.

IN THE OPINION OF YOUR HUMBLE CORRESPONDENT, which opinion will be endorsed by all citizens of his home constituency, the choice of Mr. Evans, of Berkeley, as the selection of the minority for the Speakership of the House was a compliment well bestowed. Mr. Evans is a man well worthy the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens. His record in the Legislature was triumphantly re-elected to the Legislature by an increased majority, last fall, after an exceedingly spirited campaign. He is emphatically a representative of the people, whose probity and general excellence as a citizen honors his constituency.

PUMPING PENDELTON.

The Senator Very Reluctant Regarding His Civil Service Bill.

WASHINGTON, January 15.—Senator Pendleton is as non-committal respecting his civil service as he is about his Presidential aspirations. A correspondent met him in the corridor of the Senate wing yesterday afternoon. He had just been to his committee room to enjoy presumably a two minutes respite from the close atmosphere of the Senate Chamber.

"Senator," said the newspaper man addressing him, "what have you to say about the manner in which your Civil Service bill was received by the country? Have you received any letters of comment which you would like to make public?"

"No, I have nothing to say," was the dignified answer.

"The question is recognized as one of chief importance at the present time, though I see your Democratic friends in Ohio do not take it kindly, and I thought it possible you would like to say something in reply to the criticisms so freely offered by them."

The allusion to Ohio Democrats caused a shadow to overspread the Senator's face and the customary smile momentarily disappeared.

"I haven't anything to say I care to say," said he, almost interrupting the last words of the interviewer, "but when I have I shall be pleased to tell it to you."

The newspapers, some of them I mean, have an idea that I am unapproachable and not free to express my opinions, but I am not so. Whenever I have anything that I can make public I shall be pleased to do it. Good day."

The Senator started toward the door of the chamber and the newspaper man turned to where the former called for him. "See here, remember I shall be pleased at any time to state anything which I care to say to the public, but there is nothing today," and with one of his politest bows the Senator went into the chamber.

An Aggravated Case.

JERRY OTT, N. J., January 15.—Shaw, the cashier of the suspended city bank, was arraigned to-day. He said he was unable to furnish the \$20,000 bill demanded, and asked to have the amount reduced. The justice replied that in view of certain evidence now in the hands of the State the bill instead of being reduced, probably would be increased. The prisoner was committed to jail. It is intimated that several additional arrests are about to be made in the matter on information implicating parties not heretofore mentioned in the case.

An Inhuman Man.

CINCINNATI, January 15.—John B. Hoffman, who shot his son, Robert, on Friday last, was before Police Court, charged with shooting with intent to kill. The hearing was postponed to await his son's wound. Hoffman admits the shooting, and says he is only sorry he did not also shoot his wife.

MILWAUKEE'S MISERY.

AMONG THE SMOKING RUINS

Of the Newhall Hotel—Twenty Bodies Found and Thirty Still Missing—What the Landlord and Clerk Have to Say About the Fire—Strong Evidence of the Incendiary's Torch.

MILWAUKEE, January 15.—One hundred and fifty men are at work searching for bodies to-day. The weather is some milder and work proceeds quicker, still the total result of the forenoon's search is only two bodies, so badly burned that recognition is impossible. Thus far twenty little heaps, pronounced by physicians as human flesh and bones, have been taken from the ruins. So far as can be learned thirty-nine are still missing. General Tom Thumb has made frequent calls at the police headquarters every day since the fire to see if his trunk had been found. He would examine it, and attempt to find the trunk, but has failed to find the object of his search. His trunk contained his overcoat, clothing, jewelry and a collection of old coins. The General was indignant over the report that Officer O'Brien rescued him and wife. Yesterday afternoon he told Chief Wason that he rescued O'Brien, who might otherwise have perished. He admits that O'Brien awakened him and wife, and remained in the room about ten minutes while they were dressing, but when they left the room he found the ladders by which they made their escape, and as he commenced to descend the ladder he told O'Brien that he had better follow him.

A MALICIOUS SLANDER.

A report afloat to the effect that Landlord Antislud had disappeared is wholly untrue. He was found this morning at Prof. Harkness's residence, still suffering from the terrible shock, but not dangerously ill. "What truth is there in the rumor that the night watchman at the Newhall house was instructed, that in case of fire, to return to the house and attempt to find the ladders by which they made their escape, and as he commenced to descend the ladder he told O'Brien that he had better follow him."

While the reporter was formulating the next question, the son urged his father to go and finish his breakfast, saying that he was not well, upon which the old gentleman disappeared.

AN EXPLANATION.

Ben Tice, the clerk of the Newhall House, made the following statement bearing on the fire: Somebody set the building on fire. Down near the foot of the stairs leading from the inside of the hotel to the barber shop was a little closet used for the storage of the building. The fire was set in that closet. Of course it burned through the partition into the hallway beyond it would be far enough in any other direction to be discovered. The inside hallway was saturated with oil from the machinery, especially up to the third and fourth stories. The flames feeding on this oil, rushed right on the hatchway, bursting out on the third and fourth stories, where it was first seen from the outside. It was the burning of the oil that made such a dense smoke and terrible heat. Many of the saved were terribly burned by the heat, although they did not come in contact with the flames.

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THEIR LITTLE GAME.

The Democrats Scheming to Oust Republican Congressmen.

WASHINGTON, January 15.—The Democrats in Congress who have been elected to the next Congress are already mapping out a programme in regard to the contested election cases upon which they will then be called upon to act. They have made up their minds that a Virginia Readjuster is of no earthly use, and one or two contested cases where the contest is of that political persuasion are virtually decided, and no amount of evidence which may be introduced is likely to change the result determined upon. Another case which they would like to determine without contestation will be that of the Wallace-McKinley case from the Eighteenth Ohio district. McKinley, because of his high tariff views, is singled as among the first to go without any regard to the merits of the case. The better elements of the Democratic party are not willing to commit themselves to any such programme, preferring to have the case decided upon its merits. The "riff-raff" of the party, however, who are likely to control affairs, are quietly at work trying to create an undercurrent of public sentiment prejudicial to McKinley, and that votes cast for Wallace were thrown out on technical grounds, which plan left McKinley with an apparent majority of eight votes. They do not take into account the fact that a large number of votes for McKinley were there were technical irregularities in the spelling of the name were not counted at all by the judges and yet they were sufficient in number to more than offset the irregular votes cast for Wallace. But the Democrats without regard to the merits of the case, and announce their determination to oust McKinley. To enlist the sympathy of the free element, some of McKinley's tariff speeches are quoted, particularly one at Chicago, where he stated that he was for a high tariff and for full protection and not for "incidental" protection, and if there was to be anything "incidental" let it be "incidental" internal revenue. McKinley's tariff views are quoted, particularly one at Chicago, where he stated that he was for a high tariff and for full protection and not for "incidental" protection, and if there was to be anything "incidental" let it be "incidental" internal revenue. McKinley's tariff views are quoted, particularly one at Chicago, where he stated that he was for a high tariff and for full protection and not for "incidental" protection, and if there was to be anything "incidental" let it be "incidental" internal revenue.

SUPPRESSING FREEFIRE.

Father O'Connor, a Former Catholic Priest, Driven from a Platform.

ZANESVILLE, O., January 15.—Father O'Connor, who claims once to have been a Catholic priest, lectured here on Friday night to an audience of about one hundred persons. The audience listened attentively to his lecture, although it was very disjointed. He ridiculed all rights of the church, and was called through the windows, and the speaker was compelled to retire from the platform. Simultaneously with the throwing of the stones, some fifty persons entered the hall without paying, and thrusting the doors open, they entered and began to shout "Put him out!" The audience, which was composed of some three hundred persons who had paid to hear the lecture were thrown into a panic, and for ten minutes the wildest excitement prevailed. The speaker mounted the platform a second time, but had uttered but a few words when stones came hurling through the windows from the streets, one of which struck a lady on the nose, inflicting quite a wound. Amid the excitement the police entered and after great difficulty hurled O'Connor out of the way of the mob. It was the most disgraceful scene ever enacted in Zanesville, and is the only conspicuous instance of suppression of free speech that ever occurred here. Prominent Catholics severely condemn the conduct taken by a few hot heads, and fear that it will cast a stigma upon the Church that it cannot remove.

Searching for Oil in Illinois.

MARSHALL, ILL., January 15.—A company has been formed here with Lyman Booth as President, Walter Cole as Secretary, and Robert L. Dulaney as Treasurer, to prospect for and work oil wells, at the extinct well on Parker Prairie near this city. Several years ago a company sunk the well, but it did not reach the oil, and this company is to work the old well, redrilling them. Experienced miners aver that there is plenty of oil of a paying quality.

Want an Extension.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., January 15.—James Smythe & Co., manufacturers of cottons and gingham, who suspended payment some three weeks ago, have liabilities amounting to \$520,000 and assets amounting to \$680,000. A proposition is now made to issue bonds for five years for the full amount of the obligations, secured by mortgage on the real estate of the company, and the committee of creditors. It will likely be accepted.

BRIEF TELEGRAMS.

The ice blockade in the James River, was broken yesterday.

Joseph Sailer, for many years financial officer of the Philadelphia Public Ledger, died yesterday.

The Democratic members of the Massachusetts Legislature have nominated S. W. Bowerman for the U. S. Senate.

A hay stack fell upon two sons of Milo Batch, of Mansfield, Conn., yesterday, killing one and probably fatally injuring the other.

The Supreme Court of Virginia has decided in favor of Judge Bates, who contested the recent election of Judge Drury A. Hinton.

James Renbow, said to be a well known horse thief, was shot at Smith's Grove, Tennessee, yesterday, and killed while breaking into a house.

In the Republican caucus of the Colorado Legislature, last night, to nominate a United States Senator, a formal ballot of five hundred men resulted in Hamilton, Colo., yesterday, prior to quitting the town for Glasgow.

The Paris *Koppel*, referring to the Prince of Wales unveiling the statue to the Prince Imperial at Woolwich, stigmatizes the English National Guard as a herd of cattle, and the English army as an army of women. Other newspapers make spiteful comments on the affair.

A Swindling Concern in Buffalo.

BUFFALO, N. Y., January 15.—The district attorney has decided that the Importers Tea Company, a concern which does business here by selling tea and coffee in packages that contain prizes, is a lottery. Their mode of operations is to sell a package for one dollar, guaranteeing a prize, which is generally a piece of cheap jewelry, and if the purchaser wants another chance he returns the first package, and by paying fifty cents more takes another package. A civil suit for \$30,000 has been commenced against the company, and it has been stated that the authorities are also preparing to commence criminal proceedings against the concern. It is estimated that in the last week or ten days they have cleared from \$40,000 to \$50,000 by the scheme here.

Suits Against the W. & L. E.

NEWARK, January 15.—It is reported that several heavy suits will be started in a day or two against the W. & L. E. here. Suits aggregating some \$25,000, are pending in Erie county, and for about half that sum in this county against the company. The shops here are not completed yet, but it is said they will be operated with a force of two or three hundred men early in the spring.

It is rumored here that the fight between the Swaynes and Griggs has been determined to take place at the New York Hotel, Guilford, Md., at the very lowest price, and great reduction for cost. Call early and secure great bargains.

LOCAL'S MUSE ROOM.

1143 Main Street.

ENVELOPED IN FLAMES.

THE FATAL CIRCUS CONFLAGRATION.

At Berdicheff—Number of Lives Lost Less than Reported, but Appalling Horror—Frightful Cremation of human beings—England's Note on the Control of Egypt.

ST. PETERSBURG, January 15.—The loss of life by the burning of the circus in Berdicheff Saturday was not so great as first reported, but it is believed over 150 persons perished. The fire broke out to-day the end of the performance and was caused by the careless handling of fireworks on the stage. The curtain became ignited and the flames quickly spread to the roof. The members of the orchestra were the first victims. The audience, numbering 800 persons, rushed to the front door, but it opened inwards, and as the crowd pressed forward it could not be opened. A rush was then made to the side doors, both of which were nailed up, thus compelling the people to take to the windows, through which a great many of them jumped into the street with their clothes a sheet of flame. The fire brigade arrived within half an hour but it was impossible to extinguish the flames as the water in the tanks was frozen. The fire lasted two hours.

A MASH OF BURNING PERSONS.

Eye witnesses state when the doors were finally opened a mass of burning persons was visible within. The horses and properties of the circus were all destroyed.

The ice broke when the whole fire brigade was crossing the river, thus preventing them from reaching the fire promptly. It is estimated that ninety men, one hundred and twenty women and sixty children lost their lives. The victims include the Colonel of Police and the Vice-President of the Berdicheff Bourse. The audience consisted mainly of Jews. Another account says the fire was caused by a groom having thrown a lighted cigarette on the straw in the stable, setting it on fire. Another groom tried to stamp out the fire but fanned the flames and caused them to spread. The author of the fire perished, also two clowns, believed to be Englishmen. Yesterday a man whose wife and three children were among the victims, stabbed a senior member of the Merchant's Exchange on the street and then tried to cut his own throat. It is supposed the murdered man abandoned the assailant's wife and children in order to effect his own escape from the burning building.

LONDON, January 15.—The British note in regard to Egypt proposed that, in order to avoid any abuse of the freedom of the Suez canal, it shall be enacted that in time of war limitation be placed on the time during which vessels of the belligerent power are permitted to remain in the canal, and that no troops or munitions of war shall be disembarked and no hostilities be permitted in the canal or its approaches, or anywhere in the territorial waters of Egypt, even in the event of Turkey being one of the belligerents. The recurrence of an emergency resembling the late rebellion is provided for by a clause, exempting measures for defense by Egypt from the above restrictions. Every power shall be bound to bear the cost of immediate repair of any damage by vessels may cause it. Egypt shall take all measures in her power to enforce the conditions imposed upon ships of belligerent powers using the canal. The note declares the question of the suppression of slavery and the slave trade to be one which the British Government has much at heart, and that it will miss no opportunity of advising the Khedive to take steps calculated to attain the end in view.

Attempt to Chop Off Turkey's Head.

LONDON, January 15.—The Times' Cairo dispatch states that a telegram from the officials at Constantinople reports that some Circassians attempted on Sunday to assassinate the Sultan. A woman divulged the plot. The Albanian body guard met and defeated the Circassians in the vicinity of the Sultan's apartments. Several men were killed in the encounter.

The Rhine Floods.